



**Waukesha County
Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Minutes
Wednesday, March 28, 2018**

Team Members Present:

Hon. Jennifer Dorow, Chief Judge & Chair
WCS Administrator of Court Services Daniela Imig
DOC Community Corrections Field Supervisor Marla Bell
Citizen Member Jody Huelsman
State Public Defender Regional Attorney Manager Sam Benedict
Town of Brookfield Municipal Judge JoAnn Eiring
HHS Director Antwayne Robertson
Menomonee Falls Police Chief Anna Ruzinski

District Attorney Sue Opper
County Executive Paul Farrow
Clerk of Circuit Court Gina Colletti
City of Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly
DOC Regional Chief Sally Tess
County Board Chair Paul Decker
Sheriff Eric Severson

Team Members Absent:

Victim Witness Coordinator Jen Dunn
District Court Administrator Michael Neimon

UW-Extension Director Jerry Braatz

Others Present:

SOPHIA Representative Joel Gaughan
Jail Administrator Michael Giese
County Supervisor Larry Nelson
State Special Projects Coordinator Tommy Gubbin

Senior Administrative Specialist Janelle McClain
CJCC Coordinator Rebecca Luczaj
WCS Program Director Mary Wittwer

Welcome and Introductions

Dorow called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and began with introductions.

Approve Minutes from September 28, 2016

Motion: Severson moved, second by Farrow, to approve the minutes from September 28, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss & Consider Adopting Amended CJCC By-Laws

Luczaj distributed, and Dorow reviewed, the document titled "Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Amended By-Laws."

In response to the question regarding the removal of the Public Relations and Education Committee, Luczaj stated that each of the existing committees within the new CJCC structure would be handling that function on an individual basis. Huelsman stressed that public awareness is very important.

Motion: Farrow moved, second by Reilly, to adopt the amended CJCC by-laws. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss & Consider CJCC Vice-Chair Nomination by the Executive Committee of Paul Decker, County Board Chairman

The committee unanimously approved the CJCC Vice-Chair nomination by the Executive Committee of Paul Decker, County Board Chairman. Decker abstained from the vote.

Overview of 2018 CJCC Budget

Luczaj distributed and reviewed a document titled “2018 CJCC Budget and Programming.”

CJCC Programs RFP Process and Contract

Luczaj distributed and reviewed a document titled “2017 CJCC Programs RFP Structure and Award Process.”

Drug Court Funding – SAMHSA and TAD Grants

Luczaj reported that Waukesha County was awarded a 3-year federal SAMHSA grant, beginning September 30, 2017. Waukesha County was awarded \$914,020 over the three years, which does not require a financial match. The grant pays for case management, drug testing, recovery coaching, treatment services (outpatient, residential, and medication-assisted), and ongoing staff training. We are able to send five stakeholders to the national drug court conference this year, which is in Houston, with these grant dollars. Waukesha County has proposed to serve 50 participants per year with this grant.

As part of the SAMHSA grant, Waukesha County will be having a site visit from a SAMHSA consultant on June 13-14, 2018. Their focus will be on treatment, so they will be touring and speaking with those in the HHS Outpatient Clinic, as well as observing Drug Treatment Court (DTC) staffing and court on Wednesday, June 13.

Waukesha County’s state TAD grant for drug court was recently renewed for 5 years, ending December 31, 2021. The award is for \$139,680, and requires a 25% match from Waukesha County. The match was obtained from HHS through treatment services provided to TAD-funded drug court clients. The grant pays for case management, drug testing, recovery coaching, and ongoing staff training. Waukesha County has proposed to serve 25 drug court participants per year with this grant.

Benedict arrived at 8:50 a.m.

EBDM Workgroup/CJCC Committee Updates

Pretrial

Dorow gave a brief background on the workgroup.

As part of a Pretrial Pilot Project coordinated by the WI Department of Justice, Waukesha County will be implementing a new Public Safety Assessment (PSA) risk tool developed by The Laura and John Arnold Foundation later this year, so assessors and stakeholders were recently trained on the tool.

Case Processing

Opper reported that the workgroup is making good progress, increasing efficiency in case processing by getting cases through the system quicker.

In collaboration with the State Public Defender’s (SPD) Office, the workgroup’s initial pilot project was focused on increasing representation at initial appearances. Information on how to obtain an attorney is now included with all summonses, advising defendants to obtain an attorney prior to their initial appearance. If a defendant shows up without an attorney, they are sent directly over to the SPD’s Office for eligibility screening. Most recently, the SPD has provided on-site staff on Mondays and Tuesdays to conduct eligibility screening at Intake Court on a trial basis.

Pretrial conferences have been underway to move low-level, victimless misdemeanors through the system quicker. The defendant typically shows up with their attorney, meets with the ADA, and receives a one-day-only offer to have the case resolved on the spot. The workgroup is also reviewing how to efficiently handle OARs and OWLs.

Opper left at 9:04 a.m.

Alternative Interventions

Benedict reported that this is the newest workgroup, and was originally created to address the sustainability of DTC. After reviewing and presenting a summary on the findings of funding sources and options, Waukesha County was able to sustain the DTC through the federal grant award from SAMHSA.

The workgroup has been updating their dashboard data to show the effectiveness of some of the alternative to jail programs offered by Waukesha County. This has allowed the group to review the statistics and programs on a deeper level, and will be available to the public in the future.

The workgroup was asked to do an assessment on the utilization of the Day Report Center (DRC), which has been found to have a direct link to lowering the jail population. DRC participants have a high rate of success. In collaboration with the DA's Office, those who qualify for Act 33 are now being monitored by the DRC through a post-charge Deferred Prosecution Agreement (DPA).

Mental Health

Ruzinski reported that the workgroup is striving to improve the mental health crisis services process from the time of the officer making the call to the crisis staff, to the individual having a safety plan put in place or being detained. Ruzinski added that those who overdose warrant a crisis assessment, regardless if the overdose was intentional or not. Mobile crisis will take over transporting voluntary clients who do not pose a safety risk. On a quarterly basis, the Mental Health Center (MHC) staff, local emergency room providers, and the committee meet to discuss ways to improve the medical clearance process for emergency detentions. Robertson distributed and reviewed documents titled "Waukesha County DHHS, MHC Admissions Day/Time Distribution" and "Clinical Crisis 3 Month Rolling Call Statistics Summary."

The workgroup is reviewing the re-entry process for those who are re-entering society after being in jail. State benefits are discontinued after someone goes to jail, so the workgroup is looking at ways to speed up the process of having the person see a doctor right away to get back on medication. The HHS Outpatient Clinic has implemented an Open Access model to allow individuals to walk-in and be assessed for services right away.

The workgroup also has a long-term goal of opening a respite house in Waukesha County, allowing people access to services, without being detained.

Opper re-joined the committee at 9:26 a.m. and Benedict left at 9:26 a.m.

Victims' Rights

Bell reported that the workgroup, which has been focusing on increasing the collection of restitution for victims, reviewed Act 355 and suggested areas of improvement. A bill had been drafted by Representative Andre Jacques, but due to a lack of sponsorship, the bill did not progress. Rep. Jacques will continue to work on the bill for the next legislative session.

The workgroup has also been piloting a restitution affidavit, which decreases victims' mandatory court appearances, lessening re-traumatization. Judges have also been calling cases sooner when there is a victim present.

Dunn was able to hire a Restitution Specialist, who has helped make the process more efficient for victims, and often eliminates the need for restitution hearings.

Recently, the workgroup has identified that when law enforcement is in the field, they are unable to determine who the victim is for "no contact" orders. The workgroup will be looking at potential solutions to this issue.

Other EBDM Updates

NIC Technical Assistance

Luczaj reported that Phase VI ended in January of this year. NIC is under the Bureau of Prisons, which was funded 100%, but we were informed they planned to only fund NIC at 50% of their current budget, which means that the EBDM Initiative may not receive continued funding. Rock County met with federal Representative Paul Ryan to advocate for continued technical assistance from NIC for the EBDM Initiative. If the technical assistance is able to be continued, it would most likely be more project-based, such as assisting the state with implementation of the Pretrial Pilot Project.

Pretrial Pilot Implementation

Luczaj distributed and reviewed a document titled "The Public Safety Assessment (PSA)." Waukesha County held two trainings in February for pretrial assessors and stakeholders. The Pretrial Workgroup has also closely reviewed the tool, and has requested an in-service training for a more in-depth review of the PSA. WCS is currently testing the new PSA alongside the current tool, for practice purposes only.

State Policy Team Update

Gubbin stated that, as with Waukesha County, the state is committed to moving forward with EBDM, despite the uncertainty about continued technical assistance from NIC. The state has a timeline of what they would like to accomplish, and continues to move forward with their change targets, one of which being an expansion of EBDM to other counties within the state by helping them replicate the Framework steps we completed in Phase V.

The State Supreme Court continues to identify mental health as a critical issue, which has resulted in additional focus groups at the state level. Severson stated that he and other Sheriffs are having difficulties with inpatient placements, such as at Winnebago, and throughout the state as well. Decker agreed, stating that the topic came up at the last Counties Association meeting. There is an EBDM Behavioral Change Workgroup that is meeting next week, so Gubbin will follow-up on this issue at that meeting.

Other Business

Severson expressed a concern regarding various challenges with the mental health population, and that he believes the interested parties need to bring the elected officials in on the challenges that they have faced. Robertson agreed that laws and regulations restrain everyone from having the flexibility to address the concerns on their own and still be able to progress forward.

Many of the committee members agreed that having all of the interested parties represented here on the CJCC makes this an ideal format to review the processes. Severson commented that, in Waukesha County, everyone works together.

Tess left at 10:14 a.m.

Decker stated that the public seeks simple answers, but that is difficult because these are complicated discussions. Dorow would like to strategize with someone, such as Public Information Officer Armendariz from the County Executive's Office, to better educate the public and the County Board.

Farrow left at 10:22 a.m.

Adjourn

Motion: Decker moved, second by Imig, to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.